

Message Text

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41

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01

SAM-01 CIEP-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 /135 W
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O R 051703Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0433

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3794

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PO UN PORG

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE ISSUES AT THE 29TH UNGA

REFS: (A) STATE 182516; (B) LISBON 3792

1. REFTEL (A) DISCUSSED BY AMBASSADOR AND EMBOFFS WITH
GOP PERMREP TO UN VEIGA SIMAO SEPTEMBER 5.
VEIGA SIMAO REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL'S DE-
COLONIZATION PROCESS, NOTING THAT GUINEA-BISSAU WILL
BE INDEPENDENT BY THE TIME UNGA OPENS, AND PROCESS
TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE WILL HAVE BEEN ACCELERATED
FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT EXPECTED SEPTEMBER 6 (REFTEL B).
HE ALSO FELT THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLA WOULD INDICATE
THAT PORTUGUESE ARE MAINTAINING MOMENTUM IN THE DE-
COLONIZATION FIELD, ALTHOUGH THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN
ANGOLA ARGUE FOR A SLOWER PACE AND FOR A GENUINE
PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION. AT A MINIMUM, HE
SAID THAT PORTUGAL WOULD BE ABLE ON EVE OF UNGA
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OPENING TO ISSUE AN INVITATION TO THE PRINCIPAL

LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN ANGOLA TO JOIN A COALITION GOVERNMENT WHICH HE HOPED WOULD RELIEVE ANY PRESSURE THAT MIGHT BUILD WITH RESPECT TO ANGOLA.

2. HIS CONCLUSION WAS THAT THERE WAS NO GROUND FOR ATTACKS AGAINST PORTUGAL IN THIS YEAR'S UNGA. ON THE CONTRARY, PORTUGAL WAS PROCEEDING AT WHAT HE CONSIDERED A PRECIPITATE RATE DOWN THE PATH OF DECOLONIZATION AND DEMOCRACY, BOTH PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAD ALWAYS STOOD. HE THEREFORE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO ENVISAGE SITUATIONS IN WHICH U.S. POSITION ON PORTUGUESE AFRICA MIGHT DIVERGE FROM THAT OF PORTUGAL. HE RATHER FELT THAT PORTUGAL'S EFFORTS TO DATE WARRANTED FULL U.S. SUPPORT BOTH IN PUBLIC DEBATES AND IN CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS. HE FELT THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF U.S. COULD MAKE PRE-UNGA DEMARCHES IN SELECTED CAPITALS, PARTICULARLY AFRICAN, TO URGE MAXIMUM COMPREHENSION AND APPRECIATION FOR PORTUGAL IN THIS YEAR'S UNGA.
SCOTT

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